Densified Biomass Fuel Report

U.S. Energy Information Administration

State Heating Oil and Propane Program (SHOPP) Workshop
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Wood Biomass for Fuel

• Biomass (marketed wood) may well surpass the use of petroleum for home heating by 2020 (AEO 2015).

• Nearly 2.5 million households used wood as their primary residential space heating fuel in 2014, a 33% increase since 2005.

• The U.S. exported 4.4 million tons of wood pellets in 2014.

• New mills producing pellets for exports.

• DRAX in the UK and DRAX in the US

• 2016 U.S. wood pellet manufacturing capacity is about 10.5 million tons per year
State programs for biomass energy

- Grants, loans, rebates and tax incentives
- Residential heating, wood stove and pellet stove appliances
- Commercial applications for heating, boilers using wood pellets
Federal incentives and regulations

• EPA issued in 2015: **New Source Performance Standards for New Residential Wood Heaters**

• Pellet Fuel Institute pellet standard program

• Federal tax credits for biomass appliances
International Drivers

- Greenhouse gas mitigation in Europe
- Drax conversions of three coal units to biomass units
EIA’s Biomass Data

• Electric Power Generators
• RECS, CBECS and MECS
• SEDS and MER
• AEO and STEO forecasts
• Densified Biomass Fuel Report
EIA-63C, Densified Biomass Fuel Report

• Need for biomass data identified in 2014
• Interested states – Senators wrote to Administrator
• Stakeholders meetings held
• Survey development and testing
• OMB approval – August 2015
• Survey Launched – January 2016
Overview of the data collection

- Monthly collection
- Location, annual production capacity and FTEs
- Feedstock purchases, CHP status
- Production and Inventory of wood pellets
- Sales and Revenue of pellets
- Domestic and Export markets
Respondents

• About 125 respondents ranging from a few hundred to hundreds of thousands tons per year,

• 95 report monthly

• About 15 report being under construction or planned

• About 15 small (under 10,000 tons/year) report annually

• Mills are located in 34 states, grouped into three regions

• Most exporters in the South

• Domestic sales for heating in all regions
Data Availability

• Target publication is September 2016
• Aggregated to regional levels
• Individual responses are protected from public disclosure
• Published on EIA web site: http://www.eia.gov/
For more information on EIA’s energy programs and forecasts

- Short-Term Energy Outlook | www.eia.gov/steo
- Annual Energy Outlook | www.eia.gov/aeo
- International Energy Outlook | www.eia.gov/ieo
- Monthly Energy Review | www.eia.gov/mer
- Electric Power Monthly | www.eia.gov/epm
- Today in Energy | www.eia.gov/todayinenergy
- State Energy Portal | www.eia.gov/state
- RECS | www.eia.gov/consumption/residential
Questions?

For more information, or if you think of questions after this presentation, please contact me.

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THANK YOU for your attention and interest!